

## Meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen

April 3, 2017

*[Instructed only to transcribe parts of meeting relating to Resolution 2017-12 discussing support for certificate of need for freestanding emergency department and/or Baptist Memorial or Saint Francis]*

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Chairman       | We'll go ahead and get started. Thank you, everyone, for being here tonight. As soon as Mr. Harmon fixes the coffeemaker.  |
| Male Voice     | It's working now.  |
| Chairman       | This is the Board of Mayor and Aldermen for April 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2017. All aldermen are here and accounted for, so if everyone will please stand for opening prayer by Alderman Jeff McKee, and then please remain standing for the pledge of allegiance.   |
| Alderman McKee | <i>[Prayer]</i>  |
| All            | <i>[recited Pledge of Allegiance]</i>  |
| Chairman       | Thank you. Please be seated.   |
|                |  |
|                | <i>[Various items of business and discussion ensued.]</i><br><i>[The significant portion of the meeting begins at Position 48:18 in the file as loaded into BigHand.]</i>  |
|                |  |
| Chairman       | Next up is Item 96, Resolution 2017-12 supporting a certificate of need for a freestanding emergency department. I'll turn it over to Mrs. Durant for this since Mr. Lawson is, well its Mrs. Durant anyway. I'm gonna turn it over to you.  |
| Mrs. Durant    | The Town of Arlington has been very fortunate in having 2 major hospitals interested in locating a freestanding emergency department in the Town of Arlington. St. Francis Hospital has filed a certificate of need with the State of Tennessee, and shortly after that, Baptist Memorial Hospital has also filed a certificate of need for a freestanding emergency department with the State of Tennessee. One of those, St. Francis, is proposing on the North side of I-40. The other one is on the South side of I-40. The Board and Mr. Lawson, town attorney, and myself did a lot of research on the certificate of need process, what it takes for a certificate of need, looked into the history of both facilities, invited both facilities to come in and meet with the Board in a work session. Both facilities did a very good job of submitting PowerPoint presentations and asked for consideration of their applications and community support. The CON Board does weigh heavily on community support; however, it is not part of the criteria to approve a CON. I spoke to the deputy director of the CON Board in Nashville and asked him a lot of questions. He was very helpful, sent the criteria out to you. I believe a lot of you have done your own research. We've done a lot of soul searching. It's, and I've explained to both applicants it's been a gut- |

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
|                | <p>wrenching last 6 weeks while we've considered this. It's, it's, <b>we're fortunate in that we have 2 great hospitals interested in doing something in Arlington. There is a need for emergency services in Arlington. There is a need for better medical care. There is a need for it to be closer to home.</b> People do better when they stay closer to home. We have young families here with children who break arms and fall down and get hurt and elderly people who need medical attention, so there is definitely a need here, but through many, many conversations that we've all had for hours and much consideration on both, <b>both agencies, they both have their, their merits.</b> We have for you a resolution to support Baptist Memorial Healthcare Corporation application for certificate of need for a freestanding emergency department to be located in Arlington. Various things went into making this decision, none of which were taken lightly and Baptist has had a presence in Arlington for many, many years, <b>owns 80 acres in Arlington, and that was, that was taken into consideration.</b> We do have a resolution before you and are awaiting your decision.</p> |
| Chairman       | You heard the recommendation by, you want to it before this?   |
| Alderman McKee | Um-hm.   |
| Chairman       | Before we get a recommendation, can we get a motion on this?   |
| Alderman McKee | <p><b>So I need to recuse myself from this next part. I'll let, spoke to the attorney, Kathy as well, myself, for my personal income, to both of these facilities, and I was just meeting with the attorney.</b> We felt it was wise that I have no communication from the work session that we have, that we had 6 weeks ago, so I appreciate Kathy taking me off of all that information that ya'll shared. Not sure what all that was, but I just felt like for fairness and clarity that I shouldn't participate, and the attorney agreed with that, that I shouldn't participate. That's just from my personal income being affected by both of these facilities. So I'm gonna step out while ya'll make this vote.</p>   |
| Chairman       | So please note that Alderman Jeff McKee will be recusing himself from this particular resolution. So, now that 6 of us remain, do I have a motion to approve?  |
| Male           | Motion to approve.   |
| Chairman       | <p>Motion by Mr. McKee; seconded by Mr. Harmon. <b>[He said McKee who supposedly just exited?] I just want to say, first off, I know we have representatives from St. Francis and Baptist here, and as this resolution came down, we had it in generic form until late this afternoon, end of the day, and as soon as I spoke with Kathy, I tried to, I actually spoke with Will from St. Francis to try to get him, I didn't want anybody to, to be blindsided in here because as Kathy said, this is a very, it's probably one of the tougher decisions I've had since I've been on this Board because we are trying to think about the safety of the community. You're trying to envision the future of the community. You're trying to take, set aside personal, professional relationships with people on both sides of St. Francis and Baptist, and again it's, it's</b></p>   |

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
|              | <p>an honor to be in a community that's growing and a community that has that desire for not just one, but both of them to be here, and in a perfect world I think we wish we could just say, yeah, we want them both and they both come here. But from what, and I have to applaud Kathy especially. She's really don't her homework. I know you all talk to her quite often, but it's also, I mean, she's been on the phone with the State. We've been asking tough questions and tough questions, trying to get those answers, and to make sure that, you know, I guess we have several options tonight. We can vote down this resolution. <b>We can take a neutral stance. We can vote for the other, you know, vote for St. Francis, but either way the, the feeling, I don't want to put the words in Kathy's mouth, the feeling that we're getting from the State is that community support for one or the other is more likely to get one approved than a neutral stance is. I know, I know St. Francis or Baptist, they may or may not agree with that, but that's just from what we've done our homework with the State, so that's what makes the decision a little more tough because St. Francis has been a good partner in the community, and we hope they continue to be. They're involved in our Chamber. They're involved in many events throughout the community, and that's what makes it even tougher.</b> And so, as Board members, when we try to remove ourself from the emotional side of it, we're trying to think of, you know, what's, what we've been envisioning for years with the corridor right there as you get off at Medical and it looks like that's, <b>this is a kickstarter, you know, baby steps in that direction, and it's, again it's fortunate and unfortunate,</b> and I wish I had, well I wish I had the magic answers for you, but that just, I just wanted you to know it has been a very tiring discussion amongst staff with aldermen, with members of, people I know personally in both hospital systems, and I just, it's just one of those things where I think this is the direction that the Town has to take.</p> |
| Mrs. Durant  | <p>To make it perfectly clear, this doesn't guarantee that either one of them will be approved at the State level. This is just your community support going forward to CON Board to meet in April to discuss those applications. They pick one or the other, get approved. They can both be denied.</p>  |
| Chairman     | <p>And so the Board knows that I guess we could all go up. I know that both entities have said that if they got our support, they would ask for myself and/or Kathy and/or whoever else to come up and not just express in a letter, but express community support from that aspect which I would foresee us doing, anything that we could help aid in the process. That's all I have for now. Mr. Thompson, I know you wanted to say something, or should I save you for last?</p>   |
| Mr. Thompson | <p>No. I'll go.</p>   |
| Chairman     | <p>Okay.</p>  |
| Mr. Thompson | <p>That's fine. I just, I mean, kind of like Kathy said, like he said, <b>I really didn't like this whole thing. I really didn't like that we had to choose one or the other because I think everybody sitting up here would, and</b></p>   |

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
|              | <p>everybody in the audience would agree that just to have this opportunity and to have a facility like this would be good, and both organizations are, you know, obviously fantastic, you know, medical care providers. I really just didn't like this whole, I was almost, I was willing kind of just to roll the dice and say, you know what, maybe we don't back either one and just take our chances, but I certainly would agree with what you heard from the State that that's, that we needed to do that. So, based on me talking to Kathy, it sounds like, quite honestly, I was kind of a lone dissenter here because I'll tell you to both organizations that night the presentations were made, they both did a great job. From my standpoint, Baptist definitely kind of sold us on, you know, what could be there on that property. Paying attention? <i>[laughter]</i> And I hope that comes to fruition. I hope this gets approved, and I hope that's just the beginning of what you guys can do over there, and that it does become more than just a dream. I don't doubt one bit that Baptist can pull it off in their partnership with Regional One. I will say, though, that with St. Francis' presentation, in my opinion, they were equally prepared. They brought facts and figures, data, reasons, you know, proof that they've been invested in the Arlington community in the past, and that they've been supportive of Arlington. Tenet Healthcare has done these facilities before. That all appealed to me, and again, just having Kathy having pulling everybody. I understand that I was kind of a lone dissenter in kind of liking the St. Francis route, but I also understand that we need to be unified in this decision, and that that's gonna go a long way with, you know, the CON Board, and so obviously I'm gonna vote in favor of this. I just wanted you to know, well, you can take that back, at least in one case here. I really was impressed with what you guys did, not to take anything away from, you know, from the Baptist presentation and the fact that we're gonna go that direction. So again, very difficult decision. So thank you to everyone, or both organizations for showing interest and desire to be here. Hopefully, this partnership that exists on both fronts continues in some form or fashion across the board. That's just, I just wanted to share my thoughts and be honest is what I was thinking, so.</p> |
| Chairman     | Any comments or questions from the Board?   |
| Mr. Thompson | I wish it was me that was asking to be recused as a Methodist Bonner employee, but I'm not, so I feel comfortable sitting up here putting my support behind one of you guys.  |
| Chairman     | Mr. Lamar.  |
| Mr. Lamar    | I may go back to 2005. I was the Treasurer of the Chamber here in Mem, in Arlington in 2005, and I don't know who the head of the Baptist Hospital was, but we had him out for our December, 2005 Chamber meeting, and we thought we were gonna hear some great things about Baptist and what they were gonna do. But he told us that day, says, well, you've just gotta wait another 15 years because that's our policy, and he went on to say they  |

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
|              | had bought the property out on Walnut Grove, and it was 15 years. They had bought the property in DeSoto County was 15 years. So I was waiting on 15 years because that was the policy, so I guess I'm excited that the birth has come, and we've got it less than 15 years maybe so.  |
| Mr. Thompson | So you're saying we're approaching 15 years.   |
| Mr. Lamar    | We're approaching 15 years.  |
| Mr. Thompson | You can take that back.  |
| Chairman     | Any other questions or comments? Mr. Harmon.   |
| Mr. Harmon   | Well, in doing what's best for the community, we're gonna have to make a decision and support 1 of the 2, so you know, that being where we're at, we, and I know myself I did all my homework. I studied on this more than I do my other stuff, and to come up with the very best decision, I feel comfortable, very comfortable with, what I think we're gonna do, so I'd just like to say thank you to both hospital systems. Ya'll do a wonderful job. What I do, we send ya'll patients, actually we sent you a couple today. I think to each one. They had people slammed into each other all day long, but thank you both for what ya'll do.   |
| Chairman     | Just for the record, again, don't want to put words in Ms. Durant's mouth, but when this whole process started, I led, and I hope I didn't lead them on too much, but I was, <b>I was more in favor of St. Francis at the time because there was communication there that we had with them</b> , and I hope I didn't jump the gun and empties but I do want to note that I felt those personal relationships, and then I know Mr. Norman came in and we, Kathy and I really addressed some tough questions along the way in several meetings, and I think, again speaking for me, but feeling the same way, I think we both felt that the comfort level once we had some discussions so, again, I know you say you're the lone dissenter, but it was just as tough because I tried to call Sam before I came in here after I called Will, you know. I mean, that's, Jason Vincent, again there was personal relationships, and I just hope everyone can respect the reason why we feel like we had to make a decision. Anybody have anything else? Seeing none, all in favor of the motion, say aye. |
| In Unison:   | Aye.   |
| Chairman     | Opposed? That item passes. I guess if someone could get Mr. McKee back in here. Thank you. Thank you, Chief. So that, for the record, was 6 with an extension. I don't know if you call it unanimous.  |
| Female       | Unanimous.   |
| Chairman     | That's considered unanimous.   |
| Female       | With one recusal. Yes, sir.  |
|              |  |
|              | <i>[Pertinent discussion ends at Position 01:03:08]</i>  |
|              |  |